

THIS MESSAGE IS SENT AUTOMATICALLY TO ALL RING14'S FAMILIES IN THE WORLD. IF YOU JUST PARTECIPATED SENDING YOUR BLOOD TO THE BIO-BANK NOT CONSIDER THIS MAIL.

Dear Families:

Some time ago you should have received our message letting you know about the 2009 agreement between RING14 and Galleria Genetic Bank, part of the Telethon Network. Over the past few months many families have participated by sending blood samples, but many still have yet to do so.

Like the rest of our children's clinical data, blood samples are the most precious gift we can give to researchers. We must maximize this asset and make it available to researchers throughout the world.

Rest assured that your samples will be preserved, protected, and guarded according to the requirements of Italian law.

GALLERIA GENETIC BANK TGBN <http://ggb.galleria.it>

The Galleria Genetic Bank is a biobank that collects and rigorously protects, in compliance with the law, biological material submitted by patients and families.

Sending your blood samples there makes them freely available to the international scientific community.

In this way, a single blood sample sent to the Genetic Bank helps guarantee that research studies will be carried out many years into the future.

This is a strategic plan for our association - for it to succeed, we need everyone's participation.

We have made a special agreement with the worldwide courier DHL that will allow you to ship your precious samples quickly, securely, and free of charge.

If you want to participate, please contact me to arrange a date for shipping your sample.

The winter months are the best for sending samples, as hot weather causes blood to deteriorate.

In October 2011, 15 internationally-recognized researchers will meet in Italy to discuss future lines of research.

This year we'll finance international Grants to the researchers who participated at our Workshop last October, so if we can provide to researchers a rich collection of blood samples through the Genetic Bank, it will be an incredible stimulus for their work against the diseases that afflict our children.

You can find more informations in our web site at the following link:

<http://www.ring14.org/eng/341/biobank>

I hope I have been able to communicate to you the importance of this project, and the urgent need for your participation.

If you need further information, please never hesitate to contact me:

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Kind regards to all,

Stefania Azzali

President, RING14 ITALY